

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 207514  
ORIGIN AF-10

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P 302212Z AUG 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207514

E.O. 11652: XGDS3

TAGS: OGEN, US, NI

SUBJECT: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR AMBASSADORS

REF: STATE 202267

2. FOLLOWING IS SUBJECT DRAFT (REFTEL) FOR YOUR COMMENT  
AND SUGGESTED CHANGES, WHICH SHOULD BE CABLED TO DEPARTMENT  
ASAP BUT NLT SEPTEMBER 6.

2. DEVELOPING A CLOSE COOPERATIVE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP

-- CULTIVATE EFFECTIVE CONTACTS AND WORKING RELATIONSHIPS  
WITH AS MANY MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL AS  
FEASIBLE, AND WITH KEY FEDERAL MINISTRY OFFICIALS.

-- ENCOURAGE HIGH-LEVEL AMERICAN OFFICIALS TO VISIT  
NIGERIA AND DISCUSS WITH THE GOVERNMENT IMPORTANT INTER-  
NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES.

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-- KEEP THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT FULLY INFORMED ABOUT OUR  
POLICY TOWARDS AFRICA GENERALLY, PARTICULARLY OUR INITIA-  
TIVES TOWARD SOUTHERN AFRICA.

-- INCREASE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORKINGS OF THE  
RULING SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL.

3. STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC RELATIONS

-- PROTECT US ACCESS TO NIGERIA'S PETROLEUM RESOURCES.

-- SEEK A GREATER SHARE OF NIGERIA'S GROWING MARKET IN THE INTEREST OF REDUCING OUR LARGE BALANCE OF TRADE DEFICIT.

-- PROMOTE AND FACILITATE DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN US AND NIGERIAN BUSINESSMEN (E.G. LAGOS TRADE FAIR), AND WITH THE APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT IN THE SPHERES OF TRADE, INVESTMENT, AND FINANCE.

-- EXPLORE WITH THE NIGERIANS WAYS TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE IMPEDIMENTS TO ADDITIONAL US INVESTMENT.

#### 4. INCREASING MULTILATERAL UNDERSTANDING

-- EXPLAIN TO THE NIGERIANS OUR VIEWS ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, E.G. NIEO, LOS, ILLICIT PAYMENTS.

-- SEEK NIGERIAN SUPPORT OF OR AT LEAST LACK OF OPPOSITION TO US POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA.

#### 5. FOSTERING REGIONAL COOPERATION

-- ENCOURAGE NIGERIAN PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, ESPECIALLY ECOWAS.  
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-- SUPPORT NIGERIAN EFFORTS TO MEDIATE AFRICAN DISPUTES.

#### 6. SUPPORT FOR COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORT

-- ENCOURAGE THE EXPANSION OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, ESPECIALLY THE NIGERIAN INITIATIVE TO MEET THE COUNTRY'S MIDDLE-LEVEL MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS THROUGH THE

TECHNICAL TRAINING OF STUDENTS IN THE US.

-- OFFER THE SERVICES OF USG AGENCIES, ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS, TO DESIGN, DIRECT, OR EXECUTE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

#### 7. ENCOURAGING HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVANCE AND RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE

-- EXPRESS FREQUENTLY APPROVAL OF THE STEPS BEING TAKEN TO RETURN THE COUNTRY TO CIVILIAN RULE.

--- CONVINCE THE GOVERNMENT THAT THE ARBITRARY ARRESTS OF

AMERICAN CITIZENS SERVE NEITHER THEIR INTERESTS NOR OURS.

-- STRIVE TO IMPROVE THE ATTITUDE OF NIGERIAN OFFICIALS  
TOWARDS AMERICAN JOURNALISTS AND FACILITATE THEIR ENTRY  
INTO THE COUNTRY.

CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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